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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Wheeler et al.

) Group Art: 3635

Application No.: 09/978,477

) Examiner: S. Varner

Filed: October 16, 2001

) AMENDMENT

For: DEFLECTION CLIP

)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
(PAPER NO. 5) MAILED December 16, 2002

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action (Paper No. 5) mailed December 16, 2002, please
enter the following amendments in the above identified United States Patent application.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 17, and 21.

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Amended) (A clip) for joining a first longitudinal member transversely to a
second longitudinal member in a slip joint for operatively permitting displacement
between the joined members along the operative disposition of the second member
longitudinal axis, the clip comprising:

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